

Enhanced Small Arms Protective Insert

DESCRIPTION

Enhanced Small Arms Protective Insert (E-SAPI) consists of interchangeable ceramic plates that are inserted into the front and back of the Outer Tactical Vest (OTV) to provide a Marine protection against small arms rifle fire. When combined with the OTV, E-SAPI can protect against multiple hits from small arms fire up to 7.62mm at muzzle velocity. The weight of two medium-sized protective inserts is approximately 9.9 pounds. The total weight of a medium-sized OTV and E-SAPI system is approximately 18.6 pounds.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

E-SAPI has been proven to increase greatly the survivability of Marines on the battlefield. The lives of numerous Marines, sailors and soldiers have been saved during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom as a result of using E-SAPI plates.

PROGRAM STATUS

Procurement to the original acquisition objective of 66,500 sets (two plates per Marine in the Ground Combat Element) was completed during FY 2003. As a result of feedback from operating forces in Operation Iraqi Freedom, the acquisition objective has been raised to 141,199 sets. Production of E-SAPI plates began in first quarter FY 2006, with Full Operational Capability slated for fourth quarter FY 2007.

Procurement Profile:	FY 2007	FY 2008
Quantity (sets):	84,229	TBD

Developers/Manufacturers:
Armor Works, Tempe, AZ
Ceradyne, Costa Mesa, CA
Simula Safety Systems, Phoenix, AZ